IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 14-20 and 24 as indicated in the following.

Please cancel claims 10 and 30 without prejudice as indicated in the following.

Claims Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

establishing an encrypted link between a peripheral device and a software component of an information handling system, wherein establishing the encrypted link includes generating a first seed key common to both the peripheral device and the software component;

providing the first seed key and a public encryption key associated with the peripheral device to a ~~hardware~~video controller; and

generating at the ~~hardware~~video controller, using the first seed key and the public encryption key, a second seed key different from the first seed key, the second seed key to encrypt communications between the software component and the ~~hardware~~video controller.

2. (Original) The method as in Claim 1, wherein generating the first seed key is performed by the software component.

3. (Original) The method as in Claim 2, wherein generating the first seed key includes:

using the public encryption key associated with the peripheral device to select a plurality of private encryption keys associated with the software component; and

determining the seed key based upon the selected private keys associated with the software component.

4. (Original) The method as in Claim 1, wherein generating the first seed key is performed by the peripheral device.

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5. (Original) The method as in Claim 4, wherein generating the first seed key includes:
using the public encryption key associated with the software component to select from a
plurality of private encryption keys associated with the peripheral device; and
summing the select private keys associated with the peripheral device.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, further including:
providing the public encryption key associated with the peripheral device and a private
decryption key, associated with the software component, to the ~~hardware~~
~~component~~video controller; and
providing public key encryption between the ~~hardware~~video controller and the peripheral
device.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the peripheral device is a display
device.

12. (Original) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the step of establishing further includes
the first seed key being based upon the peripheral device and the information handling system.

13. (Original) The method as in Claim 12, wherein the first seed key is unique to the
peripheral device and the information handling system.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~hardware~~video controller comprising:

a bus connection to receive a first seed key from a software component within an
information handling system;

a digital communications connector to connect to a peripheral device and to receive a
public encryption key from said peripheral device;

a first set of registers to store said first seed key, said first seed key common to both said
information handling system and said peripheral device;

a second register to store said public encryption key; and

a processing circuit to generate, using said first seed key and said public encryption key,
a second seed key different from said first seed key, said second seed key to
encrypt communications between said software component and said
~~hardware~~video controller.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 14, wherein said
information handling system generates said first key and wherein generation of said first key
includes:

using said public encryption key to select a plurality of private encryption keys; and
combining said selected private encryption keys.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 14, wherein
communications between said ~~hardware~~video controller and said information handling system
are performed over a system bus.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 16, wherein said
system bus is a Peripheral Component Interconnect bus.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 14, wherein said
digital communications connector is a Digital Video Interface connector.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 14, wherein said
~~hardware~~video controller is a video controller.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~hardware~~video controller as in Claim 14, wherein said peripheral device is a display device.

21.- 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor coupled to a system bus;

memory coupled to said system bus for use by said processor;

a collection of instructions to be stored in said memory and executed by said processor, said collection of instructions including instructions to establish an encrypted link between said system and a peripheral device, wherein establishing said encrypted link includes generating a first seed key common to both said peripheral device and said system, said collection of instructions further including instructions to deliver said first seed key to a ~~peripheral~~video controller; and

a ~~peripheral~~video controller including:

a bus connection to receive said first seed key;

a digital communications link to connect to said peripheral device and to receive a public encryption key from said peripheral device;

a first set of registers to store said first seed key;

a second register to store said public encryption key; and

a processing circuit to generate, using said first seed key and said public encryption key, a second seed key different from said first seed key, said second seed key to encrypt communications between said system and said ~~peripheral~~video controller.

25. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein said memory includes random access memory and read-only memory.

26. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein generating a first seed includes:

using said public encryption key to select a plurality of private encryption keys; and

combining said selected private encryption keys.

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27. (Original) The system as in Claim 26, wherein said public encryption key and said plurality of private encryption keys are located in said memory.

28. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein said system bus is a Peripheral Component Interconnect bus.

29. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein said digital communications link is a Digital Video Interface connector.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein said peripheral device is a display device.

32. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein encryption is performed using an orthogonal transformation.

33. – 34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) The system as in Claim 24, wherein the digital communications link is to receive a public encryption key from said peripheral device and to transmit encrypted digital data to said peripheral device.

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